## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

1      A connection apparatus for a public network switching system includes

2    a switching unit having multiple diverging ports connected to the switching

3    system and multiple converging ports adapted for connection to a number of

4    internet lines. A control unit receives a request signal from a user terminal and

5    establishes in the switching unit a set of branch connections between one of the

6    diverging ports and the converging ports which correspond to internet lines

7    specified by the request signal, where the diverging port is connected through a

8    connection to the user terminal established in the switching system. The

9    internet lines may be directly connected to the switching system. The control

10   unit may request the switching system to establish multiple connections

11   between the converging ports and the internet lines. Each of the converging

12   ports may include a multiplexer for multiplexing a plurality of user signals into

13   a signal for transmission to one of the internet lines and a demultiplexer for

14   demultiplexing a signal from the internet line into a plurality of signals for

15   application to the diverging ports.